

SNOHOMISH BASIN SALMON RECOVERY FORUM

Chairman Brian Sullivan & Members of the Snohomish County Council 3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

August 3, 2017

RE: Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum support for Snohomish Conservation District's rate change structure

Dear Members of the Snohomish County Council:

On behalf of the Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum, I am writing to share our support for the Snohomish Conservation District's proposed changes to their existing rate structure. The Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum (Forum) was established to "protect and restore the ecological health of the Snohomish River Basin to support including biodiversity, hydrology and water quality to enhance the productivity and diversity of all wild salmon stocks to a level that will sustain fisheries and non-consumptive salmon-related cultural and ecological values."

The Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) has been an integral member of the Forum since its inception and a strong partner in salmon recovery efforts. The SCD uses the fees they collect to support a variety of conservation programs that help support improvements in water quality, salmon recovery, and agriculture and have a proven track record in program and project implementation.

The proposed rate change will enable the SCD to expand and deepen its programming, including programs vital to salmon recovery such as increasing the acreage of riparian buffers planted, launching the "Living with Beavers" program, and increase the ability of the SCD to take on complex, large restoration projects that benefit farmers and fish.

The Snohomish Forum encourages the Snohomish County Council to approve the rate changes proposed by the district. Thank you for your support of the Snohomish Conservation District and the valuable work they do!

Sincerely,

Terry Williams

Chair, Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum

cc: Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum Members
Gretchen Glaub, Lead Entity Coordinator, Snohomish Basin